Previous Announcements

November 2021 - Notice: In a few weeks, the U.S. Census Bureau's Business Formation Statistics (BFS) will make history. Starting with the December 8, 2021 monthly release, BFS will become just the second experimental data product to transition to a standard data product.

February 2021 - Notice: Business Formation Statistics series are updated annually to revise information on business formations (firm births). To accommodate the ongoing modernization of the methodology for the Business Dynamic Statistics (BDS) program that generates data on business formations, the latest annual update was applied during the January 2021 monthly release. Results of the annual update will typically be released by the publication of the December monthly data.

February 2021 - Notice: Starting with January 2021 of the monthly BFS releases and 2021 week 5 of the weekly BFS releases, a new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code assignment methodology was implemented. A Census Bureau-developed automated industry-coding program first attempts to assign NAICS codes to all new EIN applications received from the IRS. The automated industry-coding program is based on established patterns in the business name and descriptions provided on the EIN applications. For applications that did not receive a NAICS code during the auto-coding process, BFS staff use a Census-developed machine learning algorithm to assign NAICS codes where possible. The Census Bureau periodically receives updated NAICS code information for EIN applications from administrative sources and updates are applied to the BFS data. Changes to application counts may be observed when comparing to data that was published in previous periods.

January 2021 - Notice: Production of the weekly BFS CSV files have resumed, no visualization will be produced. CSV files for 2021 week 1 through 2021 week 4 will be available February 4, 2021. Weekly CSV files will be published at the national, regional and state levels every Thursday by 12 p.m. EST. The Census Bureau will continue to evaluate the feasibility of producing weekly estimates and provide future notice regarding the continuation of this series.

December 2020 - Notice: Due to quality concerns, combined weeks 52 and 53 data will be released on January 7, 2021. Data for week 52 in the files will include applications for both week 52 and week 53.

December 2020 - Notice: After the BFS release of 2020 Q4 on January 14, 2021, BFS reports will no longer be released on a quarterly basis. Starting with January 2021 data, available February 10, 2021, reports will be released monthly.